

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Business owners, managers and employees learning about business recycling requirements at a SORRT business recycling seminar held in Bethesda.

***MONTHLY REPORT
NOVEMBER 2002***



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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

FACILITY	Nov FY 03	FY 03 Total	Nov FY 02	Nov FY 01
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	7,631 tons	35,975 tons	7,205 tons	7,364 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽²⁾	17,711 tons	103,270 tons	20,878 tons	13,817 tons
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽⁴⁾	47,235 tons	262,651 tons	51,924 tons	49,971 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	13,513 tons	26,288 tons	14,241 tons	14,973 tons

⁽¹⁾MRF tons reported are outgoing.

⁽²⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

⁽⁴⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During November, program staff:

- Researched 15 inquiries regarding solid waste fees on the property tax bill;
- Processed 3 vacancy refunds and received 19 new vacancy refund requests;
- Continued to research solid waste fee abnormalities in the property tax database;
- Processed 28 billing correction changes in the TXA 170 system;
- Merged digitized leaf vacuuming route boundaries with housing data;
- Updated street listing maps;
- Performed analysis on nonresidential properties to support new charge rates;
- Advanced appeals processing to 88% complete (all should be done by Christmas);
- Mailed October hauler invoices (had printing problems, but DTS fixed in time);
- Balanced Hauler Billing System to FAMIS exactly and prepared journal entries;
- Worked with several individual haulers on various problems;
- Increased one surety bond requirement;
- Replaced one cash collateral deposit with higher level surety bond;
- Removed one obsolete account (R&B Apartments) and cancelled surety bond;

- Worked on problems with Montgomery College, should be resolved in December;
- Evaluated 5 applicants for new disposal accounts (3 not qualified);
- Completed FY02 county-wide mass balance;
- Provided quality assurance assistance on cash management at the Transfer Station;
- Calibrated Fiscal Health spreadsheet to final FY02 year-end work papers;
- Incorporated RRF bypass waste model into master budget spreadsheet;
- Incorporated field research into solid waste charge rate model;
- Continued modeling private waste flows relationship to regional tipping fees;
- Revised four DSWS program measures;
- Incorporated draft Collection Fund Retained Earnings Policy into charge rate model; and
- Otherwise assisted with FY04-09 budget planning process.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – FIG met on November 12th at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Ten FIG Members, five County staff, five contract staff and two residents of the area were in attendance. Topics discussed included Monitoring done by DEP at the facilities and the FY03 Master Plan Budget. The next FIG meeting will be held on January 14, 2003, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Topics on the agenda include the November 14th annual meeting with the County Executive.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, November 5th. Eight SWAC members, seven County staff and two guests were in attendance. SWAC was informed by Mr. Trombka, Legislative Analyst, that after tonight's elections all three members of the T&E Committee will be new. SWAC is scheduled to have its annual meeting with the County Executive at 9 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2003. SWAC and County staff discussed DSWS' FY04 Operating Budget submission and SWAC's best opportunity to impact the FY04 Operating Budget.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of November. A Holiday slide was used for Thanksgiving but went without incident.

Contractor Performance – During the month of November 2002, DSWS received 483 complaints; 22 more complaints than received November 2001.

Recycling – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the past 52 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
11/26/01-12/21/01	11.52	11.49
12/24/01-1/18/02	9.58	9.51
1/21/02-2/15/02	9.01	9.78
2/18/02-3/15/02	9.02	9.41
3/18/02-4/12/02	9.73	9.87
4/15/02-5/10/02	9.81	9.68
5/13/02-6/07/02	9.58	10.19
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02	10.45	11.10
10/28/02-11/22/02	11.04	10.83

Web Site – The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web site through the month of November:

List Memberships	
HHW Announcements	207
Holiday Reminder List	1,135
Newsletter Helper	37

Usage Counters – November 2002	
Number of Hits	2,936
Number of Unique Hits	N/A

E-Mail – November 2002	
Top Issues : SORRT, Plastic, Complaints	45
Blue Bins	155

Customer Service – DSWS received 7,755 incoming calls and 763 follow-up calls were made for quality check. The Collections Section delivered 993 blue bins; and 273 e-mail requests were handled by the Customer Service Staff.

Enforcement Actions – Five citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two citations	Collection without a valid collector's tag	\$1250
Two citations	Early morning collection violation	\$1250

One citation Collection without a valid collector's license \$ 500

Seven NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

One NOV	Dump, deposit or leave at other than an acceptance facility
One NOV	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate
One NOV	Collection without a valid collector's license
One NOV	Collection without a valid collector's tag
One NOV	Operating a collection vehicle without a cover
One NOV	Left a collection vehicle unattended
One NOV	Failed to screen a solid waste container from public view

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Bicycle Recycling – Pedals for Progress picked up 0.91 tons of bikes in November.

Computer Recycling – Approximately 28 tons of computers were recycled.

Hg-Free Campaign – The program offering digital thermometers in exchange for mercury-containing thermometers continues to enjoy active public support and participation.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities – The Green Man Show continues to air daily on Cable Channel



6. A complete schedule for the program is available online at greenmanshow.com, with a link to the show in simulcast streaming video format. Future shows in the planning phase include: Rain Gardens & Rainscapes, Alternative Products for Homes, Environmental Lawn Care, Alternative Products for Businesses, Drought and Water Conservation, Native and Natural Landscaping, Waste Prevention & Waste Reduction, Green Schools, Garden Care from the Soil Up, Alternative Transportation,

Green Homes, Green Buildings, IPM & Alternatives to Pesticides.

The Green Man column with recommendations on alternative (resource conserving) landscaping continues in several Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and greenman@askdep.com.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – One HHW event was held on November 4th at the Transfer Station; 785 patrons attended.

Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program – One SQG/Ecowise event was held on November 13, 2002; 10 companies attended.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations - The CEMS continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. Unit #1 was brought offline for scheduled maintenance on October 31st; the system recorded emissions from units #2 and #3 until November 16th only. At approximately 7 a.m. on November 16th, unit #1 was brought online after completing scheduled maintenance. During the outage, all bags in the fabric filter baghouse were changed. Some grate bars and tiles were replaced and re-plating of the scrubber was done. All 3 units operated from November 16 until the end of the month. On November 19th, at 3 p.m., CEMS for unit #2 recorded an elevated level for the 1-hour HCl. The reading was 28 ppmv with a removal efficiency of 93% compared to the Title V Air Permit requirement of 25 ppmv or 95% removal efficiency. The cause was failure of a lime-slurry supply-line re-circulation valve. The problem was rectified by 4 p.m. and the CEMS was operating properly. Because the HCl analyzer is not certified by the EPA, the permit requirement is only for the annual stack test, and not for CEMS reading. Therefore, it does not constitute a permit violation. In any case, because the elevated HCl level was caused by "equipment malfunction," it is covered under malfunction relief in the Air Permit.

On November 26th, Covanta performed the monthly "Opacity Test." The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

In the first week of November, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's were updated to include CEMS data up to October 31, 2002. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to the FIG -SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee.

FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee – ENSR finalized the Non-Air Media Report and submitted the final report to DSWS. After review of the report, copies will be placed in the County's public libraries in December. ENSR is expected to submit the draft report on the RRF Update of the Multiple Pathway Health Risk Study by the middle of December. It will be mailed to the Subcommittee by the end of December.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology - For the entire month of November, the leachate evaporator remained shutdown. The ground-flare without leachate evaporation operated throughout the month.

Contracts and RFP's – ENSR is expected to start the winter air sampling program during the second week of December. The firm will setup monitoring stations at the Beallsville Fire Station and Lucketts Elementary School. Meetings are scheduled with staff of the Beallsville Fire Station and Lucketts Elementary School on December 10th.

In response to the RFP for ENSR's replacement contractor that was advertised on October 25, 2002, DSWS received 3 proposals. Review process will commence in a few days. Contractor selection is expected in February 2003.

RECYCLING

Public Outreach – The Recycling Task Force met on November 20, 2002. Staff is assisting the Task Force as they finalize recommendations to present to the County Executive in January.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction – Staff continued to perform on-site visits of businesses in November and resolved several complaints. Staff presented buying recycled information at six special events to promote America Recycles Day. Two business recycling "It's the Law" seminars were held in Bethesda and Silver Spring. Business starter recycling kits were completed and will be distributed to small businesses during on-site visits.

Multi-Family Recycling – Staff continued to provide daily on-site technical assistance and outreach to multi-family property managers in the County. A Multi-Family Recycling Seminar for property managers, residents, and haulers is to be held in early February. Staff is working on several tasks simultaneously, including: telephone survey, multi-media educational campaign, focus group research, and the upcoming newsletter.

Mixed Paper Recycling – Educational materials (including a flyer, two brochures and a booklet) highlighting the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling at the curb and a paper bag printed with the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling are being distributed to residents directly, and through some grocery stores.

Volunteer Activities – Four volunteers assisted at the HHW collection held at the Transfer Station. One volunteer provided office assistance. In addition, staff conducted a presentation at the Faith United Methodist Church pre-school educating 100 children about recycling. Most of the kids loved Digger.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot –The November totals for the Potomac paper toter program are:

11/06/02	16,860 lbs.	20.81 lbs. per household
11/13/02	18,360 lbs.	22.67 lbs. per household
11/20/02	17,740 lbs.	21.90 lbs. per household
<u>11/27/02</u>	<u>19,420 lbs.</u>	<u>23.98 lbs. per household</u>
Total	72,380 lbs.	22.34 lbs. average per household

The current average weight per house for 60 weeks of the totter program is 20.13 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.89% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility – Of the 47,235 tons processed in November, 323 tons were reject material from the Compost Facility. Trash deliveries have held around 11,500 ton/week. In November, the fall outage season continued. Boiler #1 went through a planned 2-week repair outage. Major repairs included replacement of 5 steps of grate bars, new refractory in the firebox, re-plating of the scrubber and new bags in the baghouse.

There were no significant safety incidents during the month. The facility continues to operate with no OSHA recordable accidents in over 970 days.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of November; no power was purchased during the month.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions during the month of November 2002.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Performed ash testing on November 25th and 26th with sampling to continue in December.
- Submitted Triennial Lead and Copper Monitoring Report form to MDE.
- Submitted the October 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V Permit was performed on November 26th.
- The CEMS technician, Syl Ebron, submitted updated CD-ROM's to the County that included data for October 2002.

Materials Recovery Facility – Approximately 1,782 tons of commingled material were shipped out and approximately 5,849 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

ICF Consulting continued work developing and installing a new display wall explaining the processing system, to be located in the information center. Potomac, Inc. completed the brochure explaining the new processing system.

Vehicle turning radius behind the plant improved due to removal of a traffic island near the building addition.

Overhead lighting at the plant's sorting stations was modified to provide better illumination for workers.

Platforms were built for each sorter to allow more comfortable standing and reaching motions.

Oaks Landfill – SCS Field Services continued with the design of the landfill gas system controls to be installed with the upcoming improvements to the gas system.

An IFB for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance was issued in mid-November.

Gude Landfill – No activities this month.

Transfer Station – During November, Covanta shipped via rail 49,116 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF, 1,386 more tons than shipped in November 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

DSWS, with input from Covanta, prepared an updated Transfer Station operating plan to send to MDE for their review and approval.

Covanta had a contractor mill and repave several damaged areas of pavement around the site.

Covanta conducted a traffic study of the tipping floor movements in light of a number of recent minor vehicle accidents.

The Transfer Station started accepting a portion of the leaves collected by the County's curbside leaf vacuuming program. This program will run through December.

The radiation detectors had 23 alarms in November including 4 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified). All of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives. All of these loads were accepted.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – Received information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and requests for Limited Power of Attorney from Site 2 tenants; both related to participation in federal farming programs. Mr. Haney, the new tenant, inspected the property with his architect. The lease agreement is at the County Attorney Office for review.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – In the month of November, 12,945 tons of leaves and 569 tons of grass were delivered to the yard trim facility for composting; 323 tons of debris were sent to the RRF; and 3038 cubic yards of Leafgro were shipped to distributors.

Fire Hydrant Installation – A contract has been awarded for the work; construction will start in January.

Bagging Operation – In November, 11,750 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors (each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.).

Linden Farm Renovations - The renovation work and painting of the barns and silos is complete. Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn is in progress.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia – During the month of November, about 13,481 tons of ash residue and approximately 4,230 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. No rubble was recycled this month. The Office of Procurement approved an amendment to add five additional nonprocessable waste container/chassis combinations to assist with increasing waste volumes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWs	www.mcrecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (YTCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY02 tons received- 63,633
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,872
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	201,981
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
DTS	Department of Technology Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
ppmv	parts per million volume
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RATA	Relative Accuracy Test Audit
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility